

### **Treasurer's Report for the year ended 30 June 2013**

Membership receipts for the 2012-13 year continued to show a steady increase.

The summer concert series, usually our second highest source of revenue was subject to unfortunate weather conditions last January which caused the cancellation of two concerts and a low attendance on three nights when rain arrived or was threatened. This resulted in a considerable drop in profit. Notwithstanding the weather, it was estimated that the change to gate collections did result in higher revenue per person making it worth the extra work for volunteers. An additional factor in the reduction of nett income was the 50% increase in the cost of band hire.

It was another good year for the Art Exhibition which resulted in an overall profit from commission and raffle sales of \$3,637. The Friends Annual Dinner was well patronised and passed the break-even point by \$100, which was perfectly acceptable given that the primary purpose is to provide a social function for Friends.

Thursday Talks, Plant Sales, Breakfast with the Birds and Guided Walks, continue to be popular and all showed an increase on the previous year providing a boost to our income. The sale of books kindly donated by Murray Fagg was another popular event run in conjunction with the April Plant Sale and realized \$1,234. Another one-off event was the Leonie Norton Art Workshop from which the Friends benefitted by \$667. The increase in donations received is mainly attributable to our very popular Bird Brochure for which we were requesting a gold coin donation.

On the expenditure side, general expenses were largely in line with previous years with the notable exception being \$5,800 on a new and improved Friends website. Costs for the Family Picnic Day were covered by the grant received for Seniors Week. The higher expenditure for insurance can be explained by the fact that payment for 2014 was made in June 2013.

Major Gardens support projects during the year totalled almost \$144,000, of which the major contribution was \$87,000 in progress payments for the Red Centre Gardens Gathering Place Artwork.

Other payments were (approximately):

\$9,000 for upgraded audio-visual equipment for the Theatrette

\$5,400 for the Water Bubbler on Banks Walk

\$30,700 for Seed Bank Equipment

Although \$11,950 is listed as expenditure for the Eucalypt Walk, this was covered by the grant from the Dahl Foundation which was received during the previous financial year.

The Balance Sheet shows that we have accumulated funds of \$271,653, the reduction of \$80,245 since 30 June 2012 being due to the major outlay on the Red Centre Garden artwork. Proposed expenditure on gardens projects in this current financial year is not expected to exceed \$50,000 and I am confident that the accounts are in a fit state to enable us to meet the aims of the Friends in the foreseeable future.

Donations to **The Public Fund** totalled \$21,515, almost double the previous year, which was most encouraging.

Although \$10K had been approved for Eucalypt Walk signage, only \$2,223 was needed over and above the grant from the Dahl Foundation. Payments of \$6,480 were made towards the Termite Mound in the Red Centre Garden; a third and final payment has been made in this financial year. A commitment of \$15,000 has been made to fund the Aboriginal Plant Trail, but at this stage only one payment of \$594 has been made.

Marion Jones  
Treasurer